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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/609,250	06/30/2000	Tsuguhiro Korenaga	33216M050	2081

7590 11/17/2004

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EXAMINER
VARGOT, MATHIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1732	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/609,250	KORENAGA ET AL.
	Examiner Mathieu D. Vargot	Art Unit 1732
<b>-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</b>		
<b>Period for Reply</b>		
<b>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.</li> <li>- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.</li> <li>- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</li> </ul>		
<b>Status</b>		
1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>23 August 2004</u> .		
2a) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is <b>FINAL</b> .                    2b) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.		
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.		
<b>Disposition of Claims</b>		
4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1,2,5-11,14 and 19-31</u> is/are pending in the application.		
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.		
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.		
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.		
7) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.		
8) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1,2,5-11,14 and 19-31</u> are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.		
<b>Application Papers</b>		
9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.		
10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner.		
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).		
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).		
11) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.		
<b>Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119</b>		
12) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).		
a) <input type="checkbox"/> All    b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some * c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of:		
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.		
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.		
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).		
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.		
<b>Attachment(s)</b>		
1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.		
4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.		
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)		
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.		

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 14 and 22, drawn to a micro-shape transcription method, classified in class 264, subclass 322.
- II. Claims 10, 11 and 23-29, drawn to an optical component manufacturing method, classified in class 264, subclass 1.24.
- III. Claims 9 and 19-21, drawn to a micro-shape transcription apparatus, classified in class 425, subclass 384.
- IV. Claims 30 and 31, drawn to a method to control operating parameters of a micro-shape transcription press, classified in class 264, subclass 40.6.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

Inventions I and III are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case the process as claimed can be practiced by another apparatus such as one without the instant vacuum chuck for fixing the base material—ie, the base material can simply be placed on one of the molds.

Inventions I/II and II/III are considered to be separate or distinct in that the micro-shape transcription method and apparatus of Groups I and III has utility in forming other than optical products and hence can be used in methods other than set forth in Group II. Ie, the micro-shape transcription can be used to make roughened surfaces on plastic

parts which are subsequently bonded together, the roughened surface facilitating the bonding.

Inventions I/IV, II/IV and III/IV are considered to be separate or distinct in that the method of Groups I and III and the apparatus of Group II can be practiced or utilized without the control scheme set forth in Group IV claims—ie, the method and apparatus of Groups I-III can be practiced without necessarily employing the study set forth in Group IV claims. Indeed, the method and apparatus of Groups I-III can be practiced by determining mold pressing and separation temperatures based on the base material's softening temperature.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

2. The outstanding rejection and applicant's comments directed thereto have been noted. However, in view of the amendment, a restriction requirement has been made and further discussion of the art rejection will be held in abeyance pending an election.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mathieu D. Vargot whose telephone number is 571 272-1211. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 9 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Colaianni, can be reached on 571 272-1196. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

M. Vargot  
November 12, 2004

*M. Vargot*  
Mathieu D. Vargot  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1732

*11/12/04*